Investments Ltd. One of the items to be investigated relates to alienation of valuable properties belonging to Express Newspapers Ltd. from M/s. Indian Express Newspapers (Bombay) Pvt. Ltd. with a view to depriving the creditors of the latter company, and its subsidiaries of their securities. The Bombay High Court stayed the order of investigation, against which an appeal has been filed.

Working out of amount against M/s. Pfizer

1919. SHRI CHITTA BASU: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question No. 3657 given in the Rajya Sabha on 29th August, 1988 and state:

(a) whether it is a fact that special team worked out the gross amount against Pfizer in respect of Oxy-tetracycline, PAS and its salts;

(b) if so, what was the gross amount worked out against each drug;

(c) what are the details based on which calculations of gross amount were arrived at in each case;

(d) whether it is a fact that the special team allowed set offs;

(e) if so, what was the magnitude of each; and

(f) whether it is a fact that set offs allowed were given by the office of Development Commissioner (Drugs)?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) to (f) The required details to the extent information is available would be collected and laid on the Table of the House.

Calculation of amount due to Benzethene

1920. SHRI RAOOF VALIULLAH: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 4602 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 5th September, 1988 and state:

(a) what is the quantity of bulk drug Benzathene involved on which the amount due from the company has been calculated;

(b) what is the production of formulations involved on which the amount due against John Wyeth has been calculated;

(c) at what rate the amount has been calculated and whether it is a fact that amount has been calculated from this company without properly disposing of the representation; and

(d) whether it is a fact that the compnay challenged the amount assessed and disputed?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) to (d) The required details to the extent information is available, would be collected and laid on the Table of the House.

Aspects for the development of Salt Industry

1921. SHRI RAOOF VALIULLAH: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a Salt Inquiry Commission constituted by Government in 1978 examined various aspects of development of salt industry and submitted its report; if so, what were its major recommendations;

(b) whether the recommendations were examined by Government and what was the view taken on each recommendation;

(c) whether the Committee recommended to delegate powers to State Governments in the matter of licensing salt works and execution of developmental and labour welfare works to be funded from the salt cess; if so, what was the difficulty in accepting the Committee's recommendation; and

(d) what are the reasons for which administration of salt cess has been retained by the Central Government and what was the amount spent for labour welfare works in salt producing States in the last three years against their production?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DE-

VELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The recommendaions of the Salt Enquiry Committee together with decisions of the Governemnt on each are listed as an Annexure (*See* Appendix CXLVIII, Annexure No. 87).

(c) and (d) Yes Sir. Licences for salt manufacture are issued under the provisions of Central Excises and Salt Act, 1944 and the rules made thereunder. Cess on salt is collected under the Salt Cess Act, 1953 and such proceeds are utilised for execution of developmental and labour welfare works.

Salt is a Central subject included in item 58 of Seventh Schedule of Constitution of India. Hence, licensing, development and welfare of the salt industry is the responsibility of the Central Government.

2. For the reasons mentioned above and in the interest of uniformity it was decided that these functions should continue to be performed by the Salt Department under the Central Government.

3. Details regarding the amount incurred for labour welfare works in Salt producing States during the last 3 years against their production are shown in the enclosed statement (*See* below).

Statement

Details regarding the amount incrred for labour welfare works in salt pro ducing States and salt production

Sl. No	Year	Production of Salt (in lakh tonnes)	Amount spent on Developmental & Labour Welfare Works (Rupees in lakhs)	
1	1985	98.75	69.98	(Figure for 1985-86)
2	1986	101.16	69.65	(Figure for 1986-87)
3	1987	98 99	93 27	(Figure for 1987-88)

Commemorative stamps on Pt. Jawaharlal Nehru and Pt. Govind Ballabh Pant

1922. SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state the dates and occasions on which commemorative stamps have so far been issued by Government in honour of Pt. Jawaharlal Nehru and Pt. Govind Ballabh Pant?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO): Commemorative stamps on Pt. Jawaharlal and Pt. Govind Ballabh Pant have been issued on seven and two occasions respec-